

Message Text

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15/22

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EB-07 AID-05 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 IOE-00

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O 031057Z NOV 76 CCY REF ADDED

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5608

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 30343

E C O R R E C T E D C O P Y REF ADDED

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, ESCAP, TH

SUBJECT: SRV PARTICIPATION IN 20TH SESSION, ESCAP COMMITTEE
ON TRADE

REF: BANGKOK 30192

FOLLOWING IS VERBATIM STATEMENT READ BY ESCAP SECRETARIAT
OFFICIAL GONTHA, REFERRED TO IN REFTEL:

QUOTE: IT IS CORRECT THAT THE UN OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS
NOW CONSIDERS THAT THE SRV IS A MEMBER OF ESCAP. DEVELOPMENTS
HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
REGARDS ITSELF AS THE SUCCESSOR STATE IN INTERNATIONAL OR-
GANIZATIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS OF THE FORMER REPUBLIC
OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,
IN CASES WHERE BOTH WERE PROVIOUSLY MEMBERS OR WHERE ONLY THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM WAS A MEMBER. THIS POSITION HAS BEEN
ACCEPTED IN VARIOUS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, RECENT EXAMPLES BEING
IBRD AND IMF AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL CURRENTLY HAS BEFORE IT
AN APPLICATION FROM THE SRV FOR SINGLE MEMBERHSIP IN THE UN.

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IN LIGHT OF THE FORGOING,THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS

IS NOW TREATING THE SRV AS THE AUTOMATIC SUCCESSOR STATE, WHICH INTER ALIA ENTAILS, ACCORDING TO IT, FULL MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS IN ESCAP, INCLUDING INVITATIONS TO MEETINGS.

IT IS THE POSITION OF THE SRV THAT THE SUCCESSION OCCURRED ON 2 JULY 1976, THE DATE WHICH THE TWO FORMER VIETNAMESE STATES WERE OFFICIALLY REUNIFIED. ANY LISTING OF ESCAP MEMBER STATES DEALING WITH THE PERIOD SUBSEQUENT TO 2 JULY 1976 SHOULD THEREFORE LIST THE SRV AS THE MEMBER IN PLACE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

IT WAS ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE THAT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARAMIS INVITED THE SRV TO ATTEND THIS MEETING OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE AND HAS EXTENDED FULL MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS FOR THE FRV TO ATTEND ESCAP MEETINGS. END QUOTE

2. STATEMENT WAS PREPARED LOCALLY ON THE BASIS OF LEGAL ADVICE FROM UN OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO30343
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760411-0939
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761187/aaaacxnx.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BANGKOK 30192
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SRV PARTICIPATION IN 20TH SESSION, ESCAP COMMITTEE ON TRADE
TAGS: OCON, PORO, TH, US, VN, ESCAP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006